

# CON ALMA HEALTH FOUNDATION (CAHF)

## Core Values of the Foundation

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The Foundation shall respect and respond to the values and experiences of all peoples and communities in New Mexico. The Foundation will make grants that promote systemic change and will be outcome oriented. The Foundation's grants may compliment, but shall not replace federal, tribal, state, city, town, or county government health programs. To fulfill the Mission of the Foundation, the Foundation shall adhere to six Core Values to guide the Foundation's policies, operations, and grant making. These six Core Values are to:

1. Improve the health status of all New Mexicans,
2. Maintain the public trust,
3. Involve, collaborate, and partner with New Mexico communities,
4. Innovate and lead,
5. Teach and learn,
6. Be an effective advocate for a health policy which supports the Foundation's Charitable Purpose and Mission.

These six Core Values are more completely defined as follows:

### **1. A commitment to improve the health status of all New Mexicans.**

---The Foundation will focus on the needs of the uninsured and the medically underserved.

---The Foundation will work to reduce health disparities by promoting greater access to health care and improved quality of health care for all New Mexicans—with a special emphasis on people of color and rural and tribal communities—in order to protect the rights of all New Mexicans to adequate health care.

---The Foundation will make grants that emphasize the importance of education, prevention, and personal responsibility.

### **2. A commitment to maintain the public trust.**

---The Foundation will remain true to its corporate and charitable Mission.

---The Foundation will adhere to the highest standards of accountability by providing accurate financial and programmatic reporting and public disclosure, by adherence to a strong conflict of interest policy and code of conduct, by evaluating and reporting outcomes of grant making activities, and by engaging communities in meaningful dialogue and problem solving.

### **3. A Commitment to community involvement, collaboration, and partnership.**

---The Foundation will involve local and indigenous communities in its decision making by appointing and electing members of these communities to policy making and advisory positions.

---The Foundation will engage all communities in health care needs assessments and evaluation processes, both quantitative and qualitative, which facilitate community self-definition and self-determination, and which strengthen and develop their local community health infrastructure and institutions.

---The Foundation will make grants to build the capacity of grantees to more effectively accomplish their health Missions.

#### **4. A commitment to innovate and lead.**

---The Foundation will define health broadly to include components of environmental, psychological, emotional, behavioral, social, economic, and spiritual health and well-being.

---The Foundation will search for new solutions to old problems and have the courage to risk failure in order to succeed.

---The Foundation will support the identification, preservation and communication of traditional practices that maintain, foster, and improve health status.

#### **5. A commitment to teach and learn.**

---The Foundation will develop partnerships with educational and health care institutions and grass roots community organizations to improve cultural and linguistic competencies and thereby improve the health status of all New Mexicans.

---The Foundation will support the development of health care professionals who reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity of New Mexico resulting in greater opportunities for those underrepresented in the health care fields.

---The Foundation will support the creation of new knowledge that broadens the understanding of health issues.

#### **6. A commitment to be an effective advocate for a health policy that supports the Foundation's Charitable Purpose and Mission.**

---The Foundation will encourage consumer participation in health policy formation and individual health decisions to develop their skills and capacities so that consumers may become advocates in their own communities and better understand the reality they seek to transform.

---The Foundation will support programs that provide analysis of health data and health policy issues and programs which advocate health policy positions that foster the Foundation's Mission.

---The Foundation will seek to shape health policy and implementation consistent with the Foundation's Mission and Core Values.

*Source: Excerpts from CAHF Corporate Bylaws, Section 2.2., Core Values of the Foundation.*